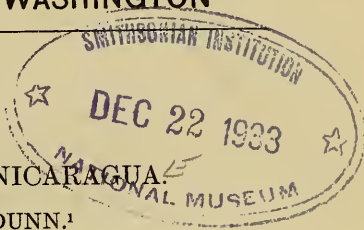


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW LIZARD FROM NICARAGUA¹BY EMMETT REID DUNN.¹

A small collection of snakes and lizards from Nicaragua was recently sent me for determination by the United States National Museum, to whose authorities I am indebted for the privilege of examining and describing a remarkable new species of *Eumeces* contained therein.

Eumeces managuae, sp. nov.

Type.—U. S. N. M. no. 89474, male adult, collected by James H. Ivy.

Type locality.—Managua, Nicaragua, Aviation Field.

Diagnosis.—A *Eumeces* allied to *schwartzii* of Mexico and *scutatus* and *taeniolatus* of northwest India; 17 pairs of enlarged nuchals, followed by 52 enlarged middorsals to base of tail; scales around body 23-21-19-17 (17 from midbody to groin); appressed limbs widely separated; one postmental; nostril above suture between rostral and first labial; black spots on each scale above, forming lines on the body.

Description.—Rostral broader than high; nasal almost entirely occupied by the enlarged nostril, which is above the rostro-labial suture; postnasal present; internasals meeting in a suture; anterior loreal higher than long; upper labials 8 on left side, 9 on right; fifth upper labial is subocular on left side, sixth on right; penultimate labial largest, ultimate small and low; fronto-nasal in contact with frontal; frontal in contact with interparietal; parietals separated by interparietal, bordered by a temporal and a nuchal; supraoculars 4 left, 5 right, anterior in contact with prefrontal and frontal, second largest, 3 on left side and 4 on right in contact with frontal and frontoparietal; postmental in contact with two lower labials; one pair of genaeals in contact; two enlarged preanals; 17 pairs of nuchals; 52 enlarged middorsals, extending from nuchals to base of tail, as wide as a pair of nuchals; scale rows 23 at axilla, 17 at midbody and from there to base of tail; a row of enlarged scales on venter of tail; appressed limbs widely separated; tail incomplete, scarcely tapering in first 53 mm. of length; total length 170 mm.; head to hind edge of ear 19; head and body 117; axilla to groin 61; arm 20; leg 29; tail 53; light brown above with a black

¹Contributions from the Department of Biology, Haverford College, No. 17.

spot on each scale (two on rostral, frontal and enlarged middorsals); these forming lines on body and tail; tail similarly spotted below; spots on lower labials; rest of venter white.

Remarks.—Only three other described species of *Eumeces* need comparison. They may be separated as follows:

- A. American species, with 14–17 pairs of nuchals; 1 postmental; nostril above rostro-labial suture.
 - B. Nuchals 14; middorsals 34; legs meeting; anteriorly with three broad stripes; posteriorly with spots in lines; Mexico.....*schwarzei*
 - BB. Nuchals 17; middorsals 52; legs widely separated, no broad stripes but spots in lines; Nicaragua.....*managuae*
- AA. Indian species, with 4–5 pairs of nuchals; legs widely separated.
 - B. Two postmentals; nostril above first labial; 3 broad stripes.....*scutatus*
 - BB. One postmental; nostril above rostro-labial suture; spots in lines.....*taeniolatus*

These are the only *Eumeces* with enlarged middorsals, and it is obvious that they form a natural and a closely related subgroup of the genus. Indeed, in some ways each of the American species is more like one of the Indian species than it is like its American relative. The distribution, the Punjab, the east coast of southern Mexico, and the west coast of Nicaragua, is quite weird; but the American species have certainly no direct relationship with any other American *Eumeces*. Save for the recently described *schmidtii* from Honduras, which is close enough to *fasciatus*, *schwarzei* and *managuae* are the only New World *Eumeces* south of the Mexican Plateau. I am somewhat inclined to use *Eurylepis* Blyth (1854, Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal 23, p. 739, type *taeniolatus*) as a name for these four "*Eumeces*" with enlarged middorsals.